

E 1629

Annual Reports

UPON

The Public Health and Sanitary Administration

OF THE

Urban District of Panteg

For the Year 1925,

BY

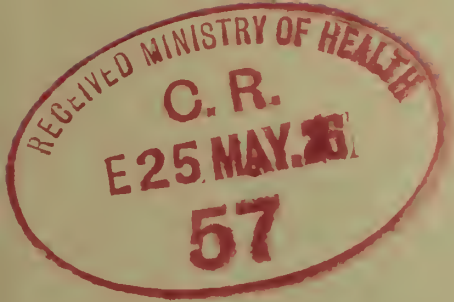
T. M^cALLEN, M.B., B.Ch.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

AND

W. H. ORLIDGE, F.S.I.A. & C.R.S.I.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.



(1)



HANBURY ROAD,

PONTYPOOL,

April 26th, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Panteg Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Harding, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report of Vital Statistics and Sanitary Circumstances for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

The Minister of Health has directed that the Report for 1925 shall be a Survey of the past five years, more especially to indicate the measure of progress made in the district in matters pertaining to Public Health, *e.g.*, Housing, Water Supply, Sewerage, Scavenging or Refuse Disposal, Food Inspection, etc., etc. I shall, therefore, deal with these under their separate heads.

Physical Features.

The district, which covers an area of 5,578 acres, is situated on the eastern outcrop of the South Wales Coalfield, but mainly off the Coal measures themselves, which cross the western side diagonally from South West to North East.

The altitude varies from 1,557 feet above sea level upon the Pennant Grit in Mynydd Maen to under 200 feet near the Pettingale. With the exception of the scattered houses and Penyrheol and Upper Race, nearly all the dwelling-houses lie between 300 and 500 feet above sea level, and principally upon the old red marl.

Population and Social Conditions.

The Registrar General has estimated the population at the middle of the year at 11,670, an increase in the intercensal period of 685.

The last census taken in 1921 gave the occupations of Males over 12 years of age as follows :—Agriculture, 93 ; Mining and Quarrying, 636 ; Metal, 1,190 ; Building, 141 ; Transport, 711 ; Commercial, 182 ; Clerks, etc., 132 ; Stationary Engine Drivers, etc., 161 ; Miscellaneous, 564. Total, 3,810.

It will thus be seen that the majority of the workers are engaged in strenuous and exacting occupations, principally in Steel Smelting, Rolling, Galvanizing, Brickmaking, Mining, Quarrying, and Railway work.

The population per 100 houses at the Census, 1921, was 475, and I have no reason to believe that the density to-day is any higher. From the Census to the end of the year under review 274 new houses have been erected and occupied, which has to some extent eased the housing congestion.

CENSUS RETURNS FOR PANTEG URBAN DISTRICT, 1921.

WARD.	Area in acres Land and Water	Total Population.				Private Families and Dwellings.				
		1911.	1921.			Private Families	Popula- tion in Private Families	Structur- ally separate dwellings	Rooms occupied	Rooms per Person
		Persons	Persons	Males	Females					
Whole of Panteg District	5578	10,098	10,985	5737	5248	2439	10,667	2199	11,386	1.07
Griffithstown	278	4067	4151	2165	1986	941	3974	863	4770	1.20
Llanfihangel Pontymoel..	1641	261	307	150	157	87	307	75	452	1.47
(North.)										
Llanfihangel Pontymoel..	98	734	808	420	388	203	808	166	950	1.18
(South.)										
Panteg (East)	1208	405	398	201	197	92	398	78	421	1.06
Do. (South)	530	1838	2082	1100	982	400	2082	378	1870	0.90
Do. (West)	1823	2793	3239	1701	1538	716	3098	639	2923	0.94

General Statistics.

Area (acres)	5,578
Population (1924) estimate of Registrar General	11,670
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	2,199
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) ..	2,439
Rateable Value	£59,676 8s. 0d.
Sum represented by penny rate	£200

Adoptive Acts.

The adoptive Acts which are in force in your district are as follows:—

1. The Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, adopted 1893.
2. The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
3. The Private Street Works Act, 1892.
4. The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, as to the majority of Sections, adopted in 1909.
5. Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, adopted 1903, amended in accordance with The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.
6. Parts II. to V. Public Health Act, 1925.

Bye Laws.

The following Bye Laws for the control of:—

- a.* Nuisances
- b.* Common Lodging-Houses
- c.* New Streets and Buildings
- d.* Slaughterhouses
- e.* Tents, Vans and Sheds
- f.* Cemetery

are in force within the district since September, 1906.

Vital Statistics.

The population for the calculation of the Birth and Death Rates are the figures supplied by the Registrar General, viz. : 11,670.

Birth Rate	19.9 per 1,000 population
Death Rate	10.45 per 1,000 population
Infantile Death Rate	56.2 per 1,000 Births
Zymotic Death Rate	0.24 per 1,000 population
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.59 per 1,000 population
Other Tuberculous Diseases Death Rate	0.00 per 1,000 population

Birth Rate.

228 Births were registered during the year : 123 Males and 105 Females, giving a birth rate of 19.9 per 1,000 population, as against 20.5 the previous year.

Of the total births, 3 were illegitimate, giving an illegitimate birth rate of 0.25 per 1,000 population.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Births	{ Legitimate	228	123	105	} Birth Rate 19.9
	{ Illegitimate	3	0	3	

Deaths 13 6 7 Death Rate 56.2

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of,
 childbirth : From Sepsis .. Nil.
 From other causes Nil.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births ·
 Legitimate, 13. Illegitimate, Nil. Total, 13

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil.
 „ Whooping Cough (all ages) .. 1
 „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .. 1

Death Rate.

The deaths registered in the district during the year numbered 133, of these 26 were of non-residents of the district who died in the Poor Law Institution, and which the Registrar General transferred to the respective districts to which they belonged.

Fifteen deaths of Panteg residents occurred outside the district, and in like manner these were transferred in by the same official.

The nett deaths therefore belonging to the district numbered 122, giving a death rate for the year on the Registrar General's estimated population of 10.45 per 1,000 population, against 9.42 for the previous year, and an average for the past 5 years of 10.48.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN PANTEG URBAN DISTRICT, 1925.

Causes of Death.					Males.	Females.
All Causes					65	57
1	Enteric fever	..	..	..	..	1
2	Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..
4	Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..
5	Whooping cough ..	..	..	..	..	1
6	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..
7	Influenza ..	..	..	..	..	..
8	Encephalitis lethargica ..	..	..	..	..	1
9	Meningococcal meningitis	..	..	..	..	..
10	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..	..	..	4	3
11	Other tuberculous diseases	..	..	..	..	..
12	Cancer, malignant disease	..	..	..	3	6
13	Rheumatic fever ..	..	..	..	..	1
14	Diabetes ..	..	..	..	1	..
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	..	..	..	4	6
16	Heart Disease	..	..	..	10	11
17	Arterio-sclerosis ..	..	..	..	3	..
18	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	9	6
19	Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	..	..	4	3
20	Other respiratory diseases	..	..	..	1	..
21	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ..	..	..	..	3	..
22	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years) ..	..	..	..	..	1
23	Appendicitis and typhlitis	..	..	..	..	..
24	Cirrhosis of liver ..	..	..	..	..	..
25	Acute and chronic nephritis	..	..	..	1	1
26	Puerperal sepsis ..	..	..	..	..	..
27	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition ..	..	..	..	..	1
28	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth ..	..	..	..	3	3
29	Suicide ..	..	..	..	1	..
30	Other deaths from violence	..	..	..	3	1
31	Other defined diseases ..	..	..	..	15	11
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown ..	..	..	..	..	..
Special Causes (included above) :						
	Poliomyelitis ..	..	..	..	..	..
	Polioencephalitis ..	..	..	..	..	..
Deaths of infants under 1 year						
	Total ..	..	..	..	6	7
	Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Births					123	108
	Legitimate ..	..	..	..	123	105
	Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	..	3
	Population ..	..	..	..	11,670	

General Register Office,
Somerset House, London, W.C.2.

TABLE I.

Causes of Deaths set out in Age Groups.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and up- wards
All Causes.	Certified .. Uncertified ..	114 8	12 1	4 ..	1 ..	3 ...	8 1	14 ...	31 4	41 2
Enteric Fever		1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Small Pox .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough		1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica ..		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Meningococcal Meningitis ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		7	..	..	..	1	3	3	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease ..		9	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2
Rheumatic Fever		1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Diabetes		1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ..		10	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5
Heart Disease		21	..	..	..	..	2	1	10	8
Arterio Sclerosis		3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Bronchitis		15	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	9
Pneumonia (All forms) ..		8	3	2	..	..	..	1	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ..		3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 yrs.)		1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis and Typhilitis ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ..		2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Puerperal Sepsis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Partu- rition		1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Congenital Debility and mal- formation, premature birth		6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suicide		1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Other deaths from violence ..		4	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1
Other defined diseases ..		26	4	..	1	1	1	3	2	14
Causes ill-defined or unknown		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polioencephalitis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS		122	13	4	1	3	9	14	35	43

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of whole of Panteg Urban District for 10 years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.		
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number	Rate.	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all ages
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	
1916.	{ 9,907 } { 10,779 }	242	242	22.4	121	12.2	—	—	12	49.5	121
1917.	{ 9,872 } { 11,004 }	207	207	18.8	96	9.7	—	—	12	57.9	96
1918.	{ 9,815 } { 10,997 }	262	262	23.8	146	14.8	—	—	22	83.9	146
1919.	{ 10,740 } { 11,188 }	227	227	20.2	114	10.6	—	—	22	96.9	114
1920.	11,168	288	288	25.8	133	11.9	33	16	22	76.3	116
1921.	11,200	280	271	24.3	164	14.6	39	9	26	95.9	126
1922.	11,310	256	244	21.57	133	11.7	31	16	13	50.	118
1923.	11,360	239	235	20.6	133	11.7	31	23	13	55.2	125
1924.	11,560	238	238	20.5	128	11.0	28	9	14	58.8	109
1925.	11,760	231	231	19.9	133	11.3	26	15	13	56.2	122

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 5,578.

Total population at all ages 10,985, at Census of 1921.

Average Death Rates for given Periods.

		Per 1,000 Population
Average for 3 years 1878–1880		26.2
(Our earliest records.)		
Average for 10 years 1881–1890		19.2
„ 10 years 1891–1900		14.9
„ 10 years 1901–1910		11.6
„ 10 years 1911–1920		11.0
„ 5 years 1921–1925		10.48

The following table shews in parallel columns the Comparative Death Rates of the Panteg District with those of England and Wales and Monmouthshire during the decade ending 1925 with their respective averages:—

Year.	<i>England & Wales.</i>	<i>Monmouthshire.</i>	<i>Panteg.</i>
1916	14.	12.9	12.2
1917	14.4	11.7	9.7
*1918	17.6	15.3	14.8
1919	13.8	11.7	10.6
1920	12.4	11.85	10.3
1921	12.1	11.28	11.1
1922	12.9	11.4	10.43
1923	11.6	10.4	11.0
1924	12.2	10.5	9.42
1925	12.2	10.6	10.45
	—	—	—
Averages for 10 years.....	13.32	11.76	11.0
	—	—	—

* The year of the great Influenza epidemic throughout the country.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION									RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS		
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 Years)	Total Deaths under One Year	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1
London	18.0	11.7	0.01	—	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.1	8.9	0.0

Infantile Mortality.

Thirteen deaths of Infants under one year of age were registered during the year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 56.2 per 1,000 births, against 58.8 for the previous year.

TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1925.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes	{ Certified .. Uncertified ..	6		1		7	3		1	2	13
Small-pox											
Chicken-pox											
Measles											
Scarlet Fever											
Diphtheria and Croup ..											
Whooping Cough											
Diarrhoea											
Enteritis											
Tuberculous Meningitis ..											
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..											
Other Tuberculous Diseases											
Congenital Malformations											
Premature Birth		2				2	1				3
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus							2				2
Atelectasis		1				1					1
Injury at Birth											
Erysipelas											
Syphilis											
Rickets											
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)											
Convulsions		2				2					2
Gastritis											
Laryngitis											
Bronchitis											
Pneumonia (all forms) ..								1		2	3
Suffocation, overlying ..											
Other Causes		1		1		2					2
Totals		6		1		7	3		1	2	13

The principal causes of death were:—Premature Birth and Pneumonia, three each ; Congenital Debility, Convulsions and other causes, two each.

The County Medical Staff administer the “Midwives Act 1902 ” and the “ Notification of Births Act 1907,” and a Health Visitor is employed in your district.

There are two Infant Welfare Centres in the district, one of which is situated at Greenhill Road, Sebastopol, and the other at the Mission Hall, Pontymoel, both being under the direction of Dr. Winifred Austin, Assistant County Medical Officer.

I am indebted to Dr. Rocyn Jones, the County Medical Officer, for kindly furnishing me with a report of the year's work at these Centres, which I have incorporated in this report.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

REPORT of Dr. Winifred Austin, Assistant Medical Officer, upon Panteg and Pontymoile Infant Welfare Centres for the year 1925.

Panteg Infant Welfare Centre.

Details of feeding of infants under 1 year of age :—

Breast-fed	..	..	73
Breast and Bottle	..	..	13
Cow's Milk	..	..	12
Dried Milk	..	..	23
Nestle's	..	..	3
Proprietary foods	..	..	2

Attendance at this Clinic during 1925 compared with the previous year is as follows :—

Children.—The total number on the register decreased by 4, the total attendance increased by 70 ; attendance at each session increased by 1.8.

Mothers.—The number of mothers advised shows an increase of 17, and the total number of attendances an increase of 66.

The percentage of breast feeding in infants under a year old shows a marked increase, being 57.9 compared with 40 in 1924. The percentage of breast and bottle fed has decreased correspondingly, being 10.3 compared with 18.4 in 1924, while the percentage of bottle-fed remains about the same. The actual numbers were : 126 infants—73 breast-fed, 13 breast and bottle, 23 dried milk, 3 Nestle's, and 2 Proprietary foods.

Late weaning detracted from the advantages of breast feeding in 19 cases.

48 children over 2 years of age attended for minor ailments, principally enlarged tonsils and adenoids, skin troubles and intestinal worms.

The value of milk given free to necessitous mothers during the year was: Dried Milk, £14 9s. 4d.; Fresh Milk, £27 19s. 7d.

The Annual Baby Show, for the mothers of Panteg and Pontymoile Clinics, was held in July, at St. Hilda's Hall, with the same success as in former years.

Pontymoile Infant Welfare Centre.

Details of feeding of infants under 1 year of age :—

Breast-fed	..	..	79
Breast and Bottle	..	..	21
Cow's Milk	..	..	13
Dried Milk	..	..	11
Nestle's	..	..	1
Proprietary foods	..	..	2

This Clinic shows a decided increase in numbers. Total number of attendances 929, compared with 833 in 1924. Number of children on register 185, compared with 166, and average attendance increased from 17.3 to 19.8.

The number of mothers advised was 50 in 1924, with a total attendance of 70, and 61 with a total attendance of 156 in 1925.

127 infants under 12 months of age attended during the year. Of these 79 were breast-fed (*i.e.*, 62.2 per cent., the percentage for the previous year being 60.6), 21 on breast, supplemented by bottle (*i.e.*, 16.5 per cent., the percentage for 1924 being 12.8), 13 on Cow's Milk, 11 on Dried Milk, one on Nestle's Milk, and 2 on Proprietary foods.

9 mothers were definitely advised at the Clinic that their breast milk was insufficient, and other feeds must be given. The remainder started bottle-feeding on their own initiative or the advice of their doctor.

43 children over 2 years of age attended for treatment of various minor ailments, and 20 cases in which children were not weaned until over one year

of age (in one case not until over 2 years). This number is noted as late weaning is responsible for debility,, delay in growth, and rickets in a good proportion of the children between one and two years of age.

The value of milk given free to necessitous mothers during the year was :—Dried Milk, £10 11s. 3d. ; Fresh Milk, £5 12s. 4d.

Infantile Death Rates Compared.

Year.	<i>England & Wales. Monmouthshire. Panteg.</i>		
	Per 1,000 Births.		
1916	91.7	88.4	49.5
1917	97.	84.3	57.9
1918	97.	97.6	80.1
1919	89.	88.	96.9
1920	80.	87.85	76.3
1921	83.	91.5	95.9
1922	77.	83.4	50.
1923	69.	73.02	55.2
1924	75.	75.6	58.8
1925	75.	83.8	56.2
10 years'			
Averages :—	83.3	85.34	67.68

Tuberculosis.

Three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, while seven deaths from the disease were recorded.

One case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified.

Notification Rate per 1,000 population :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Pulmonary	0.45	0.35	0.17	0.34	0.25
Other Forms	0.0	0.08	0.08	0.17	0.08

Death Rate per 1,000 population :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Pulmonary	1.30	0.44	0.7	0.51	0.59
Other Forms	0.00	0.09	0.08	0.17	0.00

TABLE IV.—TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.			Deaths.		
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0						
1			1			
5						
10						
15					1	2
20		1			2	1
25	1				1	
35		1				
45						
55						
65 and upwards ..						
Totals	1	2	1		4	3

General Hospital.

With the exception of the hospital at the Poor Law Institution at Griffithstown, there is no hospital actually within the Panteg district, but all workmen in the area who subscribe to its funds are entitled to the benefit of treatment at the Pontypool and District General Hospital, which is maintained by the joint contributions of employers and workmen.

The hospital is under efficient management, has 57 beds, and is a great boon to the district.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

A district Nurse is employed by the Pontypool and Panteg Districts Nursing Association, who is at the disposal of Medical Practitioners to attend at the homes of any cases which in their opinion is in need of such skilled attendance as they are qualified to give, and their services are very much appreciated alike by Doctor and patient.

Zymotic Diseases.

The seven principal Zymotic Diseases are Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup), Whooping Cough, Fevers (including Typhus, Enteric, and Continued Fevers), and Diarrhoea.

Three deaths from Zymotic diseases occurred during the year, giving a Zymotic death rate of 0·25 per 1,000 population.

TABLE V.

Diseases	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	No. of Notifications	Attack Rate per 1,000 of Population
Small Pox .. ..	..	..	..	..
Measles (including German Measles) .. ..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	15	1·2
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup) ..	..	..	11	0·95
Whooping Cough ..	1	0·08	1	0·08
Fever (including Typhus, Enteric, and continued Fevers)	*1	0·08	..	0·08
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1	0·08	..	..

* This case occurred outside the district, and was transferred in by the Registrar Oeneral.

TABLE VI.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Total All Ages
Diphtheria	1	..	..	..	6	2	1	1	..	..	..	11
Malaria and Dysentery
Erysipelas
Scarlet Fever	1	..	6	5	2	1	..	..	..	15
Tuberculosis	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cerebro Spinal Fever
Acute Poliomyelitis
Enteric Fever
Puerperal Fever
Small Pox
Pneumonia
Encephalitis Lethargica
Chicken Pox
TOTALS..	1	1	1	..	12	7	3	4	1	..	..	30

TABLE VII.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Total All Ages
Diphtheria
Malaria and Dysentery
Erysipelas
Scarlet Fever..
Tuberculosis
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cerebro Spinal Fever
Acute Polio-Myelites
Enteric Fever	*1	..	..	..	..	1
Puerperal Fever
Small Pox
Pneumonia
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Chicken Pox
TOTALS ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2

* The death recorded above from Enteric Fever was that of a Nurse at a Hospital in a district outside Panteg

Infectious Diseases.

There is no Isolation Hospital in the district for the Infectious Sick, but cases which cannot be isolated in their own homes are sent to the Newport County Borough Hospital at Alteryen.

Two cases of Scarlet Fever were sent to Alteryen during the year.

Anti-Diphtheretic Serum is always kept at the Council Chamber and supplied gratis to all Medical Practitioners on application.

Infectious Diseases.

In reviewing the prevalence of infectious diseases during the past five years, it is a source of satisfaction that as regards Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria both shew a considerable decrease.

No use has been made of the Schick or Dick tests in Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization from these diseases, but action has been taken by the County Medical Officer, as well as ourselves, in swabbing the throats of school children and teachers when cases of the former disease have occurred in the schools, as a result of which several carriers were discovered.

These carriers were excluded from school attendance until they were found to give two negative results on tests. In all cases of infectious diseases which come to our notice the sufferers are isolated, either in their own homes or in special circumstances sent to the Newport Corporation's Hospital at Alteryen, contacts being kept under observation with a view to preventing the spreading of infection.

Influenza of a severe type became epidemic during the latter part of 1922, and continued into 1923, two cases proved fatal in the former year and three in the latter. I caused a house-to-house distribution of hand-bills throughout the district and issued posters on the public hoardings, warning the public against the danger of neglecting the early symptoms of the disease.

Chicken Pox :—This disease became epidemic in 1923 and continued into the early part of 1924. One case of a non-resident of the district died in the Poor Law Institution of Griffithstown.

The disease was temporarily placed under the Notification Act early in the year 1923.

Small Pox :—No case of Small Pox has occurred in the district during the five years, but early in 1924, a suspicious case was removed to the County Council Small Pox Hospital at Cefn. This, however, proved to be a case of Chicken Pox.

Measles and Whooping Cough :—Of the former disease one death occurred in each of the years 1923 and 1924, while two deaths were recorded from Whooping Cough in 1921 and one each in 1923 and 1925.

Enteric Fever :—One case of this disease which proved fatal was notified in 1924, and a fatal case of a resident of the district occurred outside your area in 1925.

Puerperal Fever :—No case of this disease has been notified during the past five years.

Food Inspection.

Food Inspection has been very energetically carried out by Mr. Orlidge during the period under review, the quantities of diseased meat and unwholesome or unsound foodstuffs, other than meat, which have been seized and destroyed have been reported upon from time to time. Generally speaking, however, the quality of the foodstuffs, as well as the meat offered for sale in the district, is exceptionally good.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

These Regulations have been stringently enforced by the Sanitary Inspector, who attends the various Slaughterhouses at the time of killing and dressing, and any diseased carcase or organs found are carried away and destroyed in a furnace.

Persons killing pigs or other animals for their own consumption have to notify the above official of the day, time and place of slaughter, and these also are seen as far as practicable.

Slaughterhouses.

		In 1920	In January, 1925	In December, 1925
Registered	..	1	1	1
Licensed	..	2	2	2
Total	..	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Water Supply.

The water supply for the district is obtained mainly from the Pontypool Gas and Water Co.'s mains, the supply being continuous and ample throughout the year. Two samples submitted to the County Analyst for analysis were reported to be pure and a high standard of quality.

A sample of water taken from a private well at Pontypool Road was on analysis found to be polluted ; the well was closed and a supply from the Gas and Water Co.'s mains laid on.

In the Cwmynyscoy and Penyrheol districts the Council, many years ago, installed supplies from certain springs which gravitated to stand-pipes erected at different points in these villages. In the latter case, however, the supply in periods of drought is insufficient, and a scheme for augmenting the storage was under consideration, which I am afraid has fallen through.

At the Pontrhydyrun houses and Works the water supply is drawn from a spring some distance away, and is of doubtful quality. You have for years endeavoured in different ways to secure a good and sufficient supply for this district without avail.

The mains for Newport's Talybont Scheme passes through this part of your district, and it would solve what has been for very many years a most difficult problem if a supply could be obtained from the scheme referred to when the Scheme has been completed.

I would at the same time direct the attention of the Council to the number of houses being erected in the outlying parts of the district which have to depend for their water supply upon wells sunk on the premises.

As these wells under certain conditions are more or less liable to contamination, and as the pipe line I have before referred to is within easy distance of many of the houses, an effort should be made to secure a supply in this direction.

Milk Supply.

Thirty samples of Milk were bacteriologically examined during the year, twenty-one of which were reported to comply with the requirements for Grade "A" Milk; four, while low in total bacterial count, were found to contain B. Coli in 1/100th c.c., and in five instances in 1/1000th c.c.

Three purveyors of Milk were brought before the Council to shew cause why they should not be removed from the Register for breaches of the Regulations, each of whom were let off with a caution.

One notification was received from the County Medical Officer, who had discovered a milch cow in the district which was giving Tuberculous Milk. The owner of the animal, on being informed, had the cow immediately destroyed.

The Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops have been constantly under supervision, and a number of the former improved in the matter of lighting, ventilation and drainage, etc.

I have to thank Mr. T. H. Lewis, the County Inspector of Weights and Measures, for kindly furnishing me with his report of foodstuffs analysed during the year, from which it will be seen that of 46 samples of Milk analysed one only was found to be adulterated, which, taken together with the Sanitary Inspector's report on 30 samples of Milk submitted for Bacteriological examination, shews a great improvement in the quality and purity of the district's Milk supply.

As in former years, I have incorporated Mr. Lewis's report.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

“ In the Urban District of Panteg, 46 Samples have been purchased under the provisions of the above Act during the year ended December 31st, 1925, and submitted to the Public Analyst for Analysis.

“ The Samples consisted wholly of Milk. Of these 45 were certified as genuine and 1 adulterated.

“ The Sample certified against was adulterated with 1.53 parts per cent. of added water and was also 18.80 parts per cent. deficient in fat. At the request of the vendor an appeal was made to the cow. The result of analysis of this Sample did not bear out the contention of the vendor. A prosecution followed, the vendor being fined £5.

“ Preservatives were absent in all Samples. The average composition of the Milk sold in the district being: Fat 3.50%, Solids not Fat 8.89%, being slightly lower in fat content than the average for the previous year.

“ T. H. LEWIS.”

Scavenging.

House Refuse removal is done in covered carts by direct labour. Griffithstown and Sebastopol, which are the most thickly populated portions of the district, have a daily collection, while Pontymoel, Cwmynyscoy, Pontypool Road and New Inn are scavenged three times per week, and the outlying districts of Penyrheol and the Race are cleansed weekly. There is no Refuse Destructor, all refuse being removed to suitable tipping grounds well away from the centres of population.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

All the populous parts of the district are adequately supplied with modern sewers laid with self-cleaning gradients, from which in a large measure storm water is excluded. The Griffithstown, Sebastopol and New Inn sewers discharge into sedimentation tanks at the outfalls, but Cwmynyscoy, Pontymoel and Pontypool Road sewers still discharge directly into the Afon Lwyd.

Housing.

During the year 82 new houses were erected and occupied, this being an increase of 20 over that of the previous year, and the largest number in any one year since the War.

The houses provided by private enterprise, as well as those under your housing schemes, are of a good type which secures ample light and ventilation, and those other amenities which go to make a happy, contented and virile community.

I fully appreciate the efforts of the Council to overtake the housing shortage, and trust that that policy will be continued, as I am conscious that in certain parts of the district there is much overcrowding, especially where the houses are of the old-fashioned type, small, ill-lighted and badly ventilated, and often in a state of disrepair, the occupiers of which are compelled to remain owing to their economic conditions with low wages and high cost of living.

I note with satisfaction that at the time of writing you propose carrying out a scheme for the erection of 20 houses in the West Ward, and trust that it may be possible to increase that number, so that overcrowding may be lessened and unfit houses closed.

Much good work has been done during the last five years in bringing many of these old houses into a fair state of repair.

A reference to the table of death rate averages on page 9, given in the Censal periods from 1881, clearly indicates the remarkable reduction in the mortality rates as a result of improved housing conditions and the enforcement of the Public Health Acts.

Housing.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	.. .. .	82
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Act, 1923	.. .. .	77
(i.) By the Local Authority	.. .. .	20
(ii.) By other bodies or persons..	.. .. .	55

I.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.

(1) <i>Inspection</i> .—Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	186
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and Recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ..	140
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	6

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	Nil
---	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ..	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ..	Nil
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	52
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) By Owners	45
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909 :—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to making "Closing Orders," excluding Insanitary Area Scheme	4
(2) Number of houses in respect of which "Closing Orders" were made	4
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which "Closing Orders" were determined, the dwelling-houses having been made fit	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which "Demolition Orders" were made	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of "Demolition Orders"	Nil

A review of the past five years would not be complete without mention of the excellent provisions made for open-air recreation, both for adults and children, amongst which I would refer to the Memorial Park at Griffithstown, five playing grounds for children in the most populous parts of the district, the provision of an open-air Swimming Bath, all of which have proved a boon to the young life of the district, and must tend towards the development of Al generation.

In conclusion, I have to thank Mr. T. H. Lewis, the County Inspector of Foods and Drugs, for furnishing me once more with a copy of his report upon the Analysis of Foodstuffs during the year. My special thanks are due to Mr. Orlidge, your late Sanitary Inspector, for his loyalty and co-operation throughout the years, and I would not like to let this opportunity pass without testifying to his splendid work, to which is due, in no small measure, the excellent sanitary condition the district has attained, as evidenced by the low death and sickness rates. It is to be regretted that the Council did not retain the services of such an experienced and capable Officer.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

THOMAS McALLEN.

Council Offices,
 Pontymoel,
 Pontypool,
 February, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
 Panteg Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Harding, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report of Sanitary Work for the year 1925.

I have made House-to-house Inspections in accordance with the Housing Regulations, 1910, of 140 houses, the Records of Inspection for which were duly considered by your Public Health Committee.

Four houses were found to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation, and " Closing Orders " under Section 17, House and Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909, were made in respect of each.

Summary of Nuisances Abated during the Year.

Leaky roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	30
Chimneys rebuilt	..	..	..	..	5
Eaves gutters and downpipes renewed	..	..	..	..	11
New windows put in houses	..	..	..	..	8
Sash lines to ditto renewed	..	..	..	..	21
Walls and ceilings replastered	..	..	..	..	4
Staircases repaired	..	..	..	..	5
Houses cleansed	..	..	..	..	3
„ having firegrates renewed	..	..	..	..	3
„ „ earth bank removed and dry area provided	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ rooms refloored	..	..	..	..	8
„ „ new boilers put in sculleries	..	..	..	..	2
„ „ new front doors	..	..	..	..	10
„ „ external walls cemented	..	..	..	..	10
„ „ blocked drains unstopped	..	..	..	..	16
„ „ new drains provided	..	..	..	..	8

Houses, reconstructed	13
„ having new inspection chambers put on line of drain	2
„ repaired	27
„ having new sinks put in sculleries ..	4
„ „ sink discharge pipes renewed ..	6
„ „ gully dishings renewed	43
„ „ drains tested	85
„ „ new w.c.'s erected	6
„ „ blocked w.c.'s opened and cleansed	6
„ „ new flushing tanks put in w.c.'s..	9
„ „ flushing tanks repaired	7
„ „ new pans and traps put in w.c.'s	6
Soil pipes to w.c.'s rejoined or repaired ..	13
Hot-water services amended	6
Cases of overcrowding dealt with	8
Offensive accumulations removed	20
Gipsy caravans and tents removed	25
<hr/>	
Total	431
<hr/>	

To secure the above required the following Notices :—

Informal and Preliminary Notices	130
Statutory Notices, Sec. 23, P.H.A., 1875 ..	8
„ „ Sec. 36, „ „ ..	14
„ „ Sec. 94, „ „ ..	77
Number of Inspections	150
Number of Re-Inspections	1050

Housing Inspection Regulations, 1910.

Number of Houses inspected	140
Number of Houses found to be unfit for human habitation	4
Number of “ Closing Orders ” made under Sec. 17, H.T. Planning, etc., Act, 1909.. ..	4

Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops Regulations.

Inspections of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	90
Re-inspections of ditto	15

Number of Cowsheds improved so as to comply with the requirements of the Milkshops and Dairies Act, 1922 :—

Lighting	4
Ventilation	4
Stallage	5
Drainage	9
New Floors	9
New Cowshed	1

Number of Samples of Milk taken and submitted for Bacteriological examination	30
---	----

The results of the examinations are tabulated below and shew a marked improvement on previous years from a cleanliness point of view.

Bacteriological Examination.**Bacteriological Examination of Milk Samples.**

Sample Number	Total Organisms in 1 c.c.	B. Coli Test
1	2,510	Present in 1 c.c. Absent in 1/10 c.c.
2	2,020	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
3	2,300	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
4	3,800	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
5	4,950	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
6	5,040	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
7	8,350	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
8	9,250	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
9	10,050	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
10	11,050	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
11	11,150	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
12	12,500	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
13	12,500	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
14	13,600	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk Samples—*continued*

Sample Number	Total Organisms in 1 c.c.	B. Coli Test
15	16,250	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
16	16,400	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
17	16,500	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
18	22,500	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
19	23,980	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
20	35,000	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
21	149,000	Present in 1/10 c.c. Absent in 1/100 c.c.
22	19,500	Present in 1/100 c.c. Absent in 1/1000 c.c.
23	29,200	Present in 1/100 c.c. Absent in 1/1000 c.c.
24	114,400	Present in 1/100 c.c. Absent in 1/1000 c.c.
25	152,000	Present in 1/100 c.c. Absent in 1/1000 c.c.
26	142,000	Present in 1/1000 c.c.
27	253,000	Present in 1/1000 c.c.
28	292,500	Present in 1/1000 c.c.
29	321,000	Present in 1/1000 c.c.
30	409,000	Present in 1/1000 c.c.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection.

There are three Slaughterhouses in the district, one of which is Registered and the other two subject to Annual Licences. Slaughtering is carried on simultaneously in each of these on three days a week and necessitates constant attendance on each day while slaughtering is in progress, in order that the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, may be effectively carried out, as it is only when killing and dressing are in progress that efficient inspection of carcasses and organs can be effected.

Owing to the great distances between the slaughterhouses, you directed that I should hire a Taxi on slaughtering days to take me to the most distant slaughterhouse, which enabled me to pay much more attention to Meat inspection than otherwise I should have been able to do.

Three hundred and twenty-four visits were paid to slaughterhouses.

For the amount of diseased meat, etc., seized, I must refer you to the list of Foodstuffs destroyed which I have appended.

<i>Article of Food.</i>	<i>Packing.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Pears	3 tins	6
Peaches	3 tins	6
Pineapple.. ..	13 tins	26
Strawberries	1 tin	2
Apricots	1 tin	2
Loganberries	6 tins	12
Greengages	3 tins	6
Fruit Salad	3 tins	6
Tomatoes.. ..	33 tins	66
Fresh Peas		31
Dried Peas	168 packets	
Cream	1 tin	
Milk	37 tins	
Jam	39 pots	
Baking Powder	48 packets	
Tapioca		1
Salmon	28 tins	
Sardines	1 tin	
Lobster	2 tins	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	390	164 lbs.
	<hr/>	<hr/>

<i>Article of Food.</i>	<i>Packing.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
<i>Carried forward</i> ..	390	164 lbs.
Tinned Meat		60
Potted Tongue	16 pots	
Butchers' Meat .. ..	.. ..	734
Immature Lamb.. ..	.. ..	24
Poultry .. ..	.. ..	8
Bacon .. ..	.. ..	7
Pork .. ..	.. ..	150
Black Puddings, Brawns, Faggots, etc.		80
	<hr/> 406	<hr/> 1227 lbs.

Factory and Workshops Acts.

The following Workshops and Workplaces on the Register have been under systematic inspection during the year, and as in other years were found to be generally well and cleanly kept.

No complaint was received from the Factory Inspector during the year in respect of any Factory or Workshop.

The nuisances discovered numbered seven only: three not having been limewashed in the statutory period, one a defective sanitary convenience, and one each with damp walls, defective eaves, gutters, etc. These were all abated upon complaint to owners or occupiers.

There are no outworkers in the district.

Registered Workshops.

Boot Making	8
Dressmaking	2
Bakehouses	9
Food Production	2
Cabinet Making	2
Joinery	4
Smithwork	4
Motor and Cycle Works	5
Monumental Works	1
	<hr/>
Total	37
	<hr/>
Number of Inspections	65

URBAN DISTRICT OF PANTEG.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.**1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	65	NIL.	NIL.
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total	65		

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	3	3		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances	3	3		
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient	1	1		
Unsuitable or defective				
Not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)				
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total	7	7		

Disinfection.

Disinfection of houses after Infectious Diseases is carried out by spraying the walls, floors and furniture with a 40% "Formalin" Solution and fumigation. The bedding, clothing, and other infected articles, are removed to the Disinfecting Station, where they are submitted to steam disinfection.

Disinfectants are gratuitously supplied, and printed and verbal instructions given in all cases.

Number of houses disinfected during the year ..	35
Number of beds do.	40
Number of articles of clothing, etc. ditto ..	130

Offensive Trades.

There are two Tripe Boilers and seven Fish and Chip Friers on the Register, all of which were periodically visited, but no cause for complaint was found.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

National Rat week was celebrated in November, large numbers of the rodents being accounted for; in addition, incessant war is made throughout the year with dogs and ferrets as well as poisoning.

Yours obediently,

W. H. ORLIDGE.

